



STATE OF MINNESOTA
L'Étoile du Nord

Office of Governor Mark Dayton

Governor Dayton's Safe and Secure Schools Act to Protect Minnesota Children and Reduce Gun Violence

In 2003, two Minnesota students were shot and killed by their classmate at Rocori High School. Since then, there have been at least 879 criminal homicides committed with firearms in Minnesota, including a 2005 shooting at Red Lake Senior High School, which left ten people dead. More recently, there have been at least 21 threats of violence at schools across Minnesota since the February 14, 2018 shooting in Parkland, Florida.

This year, Governor Dayton is committed to enacting broadly-supported measures to reduce gun violence and help keep students safe in schools across Minnesota. Governor Dayton's [Safe and Secure Schools Act](#) would provide \$15.9 million to enhance safety for students, teachers, parents, and staff in schools. It also would provide an additional \$5 million for school-based mental health grants. Learn more about Governor Dayton's proposals below.

Proposal	Description
Intervention and Support for Expelled Students	The Parkland, Florida school shooting underscored the importance of ensuring that students who might be a danger to themselves or others do not slip through the cracks. Governor Dayton's Safe and Secure Schools Act would clarify the responsibility of school districts to provide additional services and complete a threat assessment before expelling students. It would direct school districts to improve data sharing with each other about expelled students. It also would require school districts to ensure expelled students are progressing with their alternative educations and remain eligible for school-based mental health grants until they enroll in a new district. These reforms would help ensure students who are exhibiting red flags are identified and receive the additional attention they require.
New Resources for School Building Safety	The Safe and Secure Schools Act would provide Minnesota school districts and charter schools additional revenue to make building improvements, such as secured entrances, bulletproof glass, or other classroom security measures that local school districts choose to enhance school safety. Beyond facility improvements, school districts and charter schools could use the additional funds to hire more school resource officers, counselors, or other student support staff.

Providing Students Access to Mental Health Services	Under Governor Dayton’s leadership, Minnesota has invested more than \$13.5 million in school-based mental health programs. Building on this progress, Governor Dayton’s Safe and Secure Schools Act would invest an additional \$5 million to further strengthen Minnesota’s school-based mental health programs. These new resources would help improve access to mental health care for children and youth who are uninsured or underinsured.
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To learn about additional legislative proposals supported by Governor Dayton to reduce gun violence and save lives, [click here](#).

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